

SOUTHWESTER

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council, Inc.

SERVING NEAR SOUTHWEST/SOUTHEAST

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June 1994



Southwest Assembly Does More than Before, But Needs More Money, More Leadership

According to Treasurer Lonnie Murray of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, the organization is engaged in more activity than ever before, but participation in the guidance of the overall Assembly is less than it used to be.

He gave a treasurer's report April 25th showing that the Southwest Community Council, Inc., the SWCC, the chartered organization that administers the money going into community activities related to the Assembly, received income of \$72,056 last year.

The report came during the annual meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly at St. Matthew's Church on M Street. The meeting showed that neighborhood people were not volunteering to run for election in the assembly in sufficient numbers to provide for a turnover in leadership; and that current officers in many cases had to serve longer than they preferred to serve. But at the same time, turn-out was at a high.

The money came from \$9,500 in contributions, reported Murray; \$41,500 from the real estate development organization, Portals; a city grant of \$3,000; a total of \$5,300 from fund raising special events; \$11,100 from advertising, mostly in the *Southwester*; \$1,600 in interest on deposits; and \$100 from miscellaneous sources.

More money from the SWCC was spent on scholarship awards than on any other item. The awards totaled a \$16,600 investment in neighborhood youth. While the awards are generally small, seldom running more than \$100, though sometimes an award has reached \$1,000. Printing of the *Southwester* was the second largest expenditure by the Southwest Community Council in 1993. It was \$10,400. The distribution of the *Southwester* cost an additional \$4,300.

A question was asked from the floor at the meeting about the expenses for consultants. Murray said the two most active consultants were Willie Borden, paid \$2,500 and Stanley Johnson, paid \$3,480. Among their projects were computer training and leading students in a land use study of the Southwest.

Murray reported that the excess of income over expenditures in 1993 was \$19,700 so that the balance in the bank for the community organization at the end of 1993 was \$71,796.

It was clear from Murray's report that the organization is well managed. Further, as reported in the April issue of the *Southwester*,

Dr. Beryl Rice, the newly elected Assembly secretary, led a strategic planning session that has invigorated the group and has begun to produce actions to strengthen educational and employment opportunities for Southwestern youth.

Assembly President John Brown said the group had balanced account books, had awarded scholarships to 22 students, had staged a city candidates' forum, and had achieved other valuable accomplishments in the last year.

Dispute over Money

A dispute not fully discussed at the meeting on April 25th, but known to the officers and other active members of the Assembly, has deprived the Assembly of far greater funds than it now receives.

Of all the assets that the District of Columbia owns, one of the most important is vacant land for development. This land was controlled for many years by a federal agency, the Redevelopment Land Agency.

When the District won a measure of home rule from Congress, the Redevelopment Land Agency was turned over to the District.

One of the prime pieces of undeveloped land owned by the District was the parcel at the east end of the Fourteenth Street Bridge. It was often referred to in daily newspaper articles as 'the largest piece of undeveloped land in the District,' though that might not have been pre-

cisely correct. Nevertheless, it was certainly a huge piece of municipal land of great value to any developer.

When it was opened for bids from developers, Mayor Marion Barry was in office and he appointed the members of the Redevelopment Land Agency (RLA).

The RLA required that any developer winning the right to purchase the land had to invest money in the Southwest neighborhood. An advertisement was placed in the *Southwester* by the developer, asking for suggestions to name a neighborhood organization that would administer the money.

The dispute, not covered in any detail at the meeting, involves the developers of Portals, the huge building now resting on the parcel at the foot of the Fourteenth Street Bridge, the Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation, various groups, such as Southwest Community House, the Youth Task Force, and others working through the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly.

The dispute is unresolved because of a number of factors.

First, the new administration of Mayor Sharon Pratt Kelly replaced the RLA members. The new members are not intimately acquainted with the negotiations that led to the sale of the

See Assembly, page 3



AMIDON CHEERLEADERS, entertaining at the annual meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly.

ANC Meeting

At its April 11, 1994 meeting ANC 2D:

1. Voted to request that the DC government give the ANC time to review the formal application before it gives permission to Capitol Park IV to erect a fence next to the circle at Delaware and H SW; the vote came in response to a presentation by a resident of the condominium association.
2. Heard Safeway's District and Waterside Mall store managers describe their efforts to meet consumer needs; the Commission and audience members also pointed out areas where improvement is still needed in customer service and store appearance.
3. Decided to oppose an application for a pay phone at 1345 South Capitol Street contingent on the location of the phone and other details.
4. Discussed the monthly crime statistics for the SW/SE area with MPD Sgt. William Richardson; the police were also commended for their handling of a recent suicide attempt.
5. Concurred in urging the District government to install previously authorized parking meters in the Buzzard Point area.
6. Agreed not to oppose liquor license renewals for Hogates, the Gangplank, the Market Inn, Pizza Hut, Roma Pizza, the Spirit Cruises, the Holiday Inn, and the Skyline Inn.
7. Recognized Harold Weiss, who died recently, for his years of community service; Weiss, a Southwest resident was a planner who participated in drawing the Southwest Urban Renewal Plan.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting of the ANC will be 7:30 pm, Monday, June 13, 1994 at 400 I Street SW (in the basement of Westminster Church). The agenda, which is subject to last minute changes, now tentatively includes a visit by Councilmember Jack Evans. For more information, or to request time on the agenda to present a concern to the ANC, call the ANC 2D office at 554-1795.

The paper will not be published during July and August. The staff (and editor included) are going to take a well deserved rest.

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From the Editor

Dear Readers,

Recently there have been several last minute stories. Ones that just **had to run that particular month**. So, I got to thinking. A change needed to be made. The *Southwester* is going to have a **new deadline**. The last day that articles can be submitted will be the **1st Monday of the month**. Please, no extensions...

Also, we want to welcome some new volunteers. One is attending a local college and one just finished. We also want to say goodbye and "thanks" to a former contributor, Karen Wilson. Her internship ended and she is back at Boston University. While she was in D.C. working, she found time to write for the paper. We are always happy to get new writers.

We could sure use the computer typing ability of one of our neighbors. We have two people who type up the articles that are in the paper. Another person is needed to type about eight stories a month. These are stories which someone else has already written. We need someone to get these words down for everyone to read. Any volunteers? Just give me a call.

Sincerely,

Carole Early
Editor & Manager

Cherry Blossom Arts Festival Awards

Cash awards totaling \$250.00 were presented to three of the artists and craftspeople at this year's Cherry Blossom Festival. The festival was held on Sunday April 10. Although that Sunday was rainy, the event was held under the blue tent which was made available by Hogates/Ribsters Restaurant.

Winners were oil painter, Rose Scheltman (Best of Show, \$125.00), watercolorist, Bo Jia (Second Prize, \$75.00), and potter, Connie Rogers (Third Prize, \$50.00).

Margie Goldberg, owner of Zenith Gallery in Northwest D.C. and a member of the D.C. Arts Commission, was selected by the Arts Festival Committee to jury the show.

This was the first time in the Festival's four years that cash prizes were awarded.

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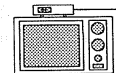
SWNA Meeting

The May Southwest Neighborhood Assembly meeting will be **Monday May 23rd at the S.W. Branch Library**. It will start at **7:00 pm**.

The topic will be "Summer Activities for Children & Youth". There will be a panel and they will have booths set-up.

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SWNA ELECTION RESULTS. Newly elected Board members and officers of the SWNA are (L to R): Dr. Beryl Rice, Secretary; Mrs. Apaula Brown; Lonnie Murray,



Treasurer; Peg Jackson, Walter Brooks; Emma Ward; Margaret Feldman, Vice President; John Brown, President

Assembly from page 1

city land, nor with the arrangements that were made for the developers to put money into the Southwest neighborhood.

Occupancy Delay at Portals

The developers had planned to lease a large part of Portals to the Federal Communication Commission. But that didn't happen. ne Portals income has therefore been lower than expected.

The occupancy of Portals by the Federal Communications Commission has been the subject of negotiations lately.

The original agreement also called for hiring of people from the Southwest neighborhood in constructing the Portals building and, after that, in operating and maintaining the building. Few neighborhood persons were hired in the construction and few, if any, are now employed at the building.

Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation was started with a \$25,000 grant from Portals. The development group expected a similar grant annually for its administration. The original grant was carefully guarded and even grew, with bank interest, over the months after it was received. Wiley Branton has started no new businesses in the neighborhood, nor does it have any under planning. It has decided to develop a strategic plan for addressing future development.

At present, the former president of Wiley Branton CDC, Ron Britt, has become an interim executive director on salary, so has resigned the presidency under the charter provisions of Wiley Branton CDC. The group is now headed by Alphonso Coles, who was earlier elected as treasurer of the CDC.

Southwest Assembly Elects

The officers elected on April 25th to head the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly were: John Brown, president; Margaret Feldman, VP; Beryl Rice, secretary; Lonnie Murray, treasurer; and board members Apaula Brown, Peggy Jackson, Walter Brooks, Emma Ward and Phyllis Martin. Other board positions are open. If you are interested in helping to run the organization, call Carole Early, 488-3355.

Each of the board members is supposed to represent one district within the Southwest neighborhood. But candidates were not forthcoming from each area. Many were asked to serve by Ethel James Williams, chair of the nominating committee, but too few volunteered to fill all of the board vacancies.

A question from the floor of the meeting asked the difference between the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly and the Southwest Community Council. Margaret Feldman explained that, traditionally, the SW Community Council has been a separate organization made up of the members of the board of the Assembly and a few other members. "Our real job is to deal with money. We have an annual meeting. Officers are elected. They are not necessarily from the Assembly.

"We originally had the idea to go outside of the Southwest to get some Council members in the hope that they would bring some money with them. Now the Assembly officers are members of the Council."

This didn't exactly work out when further discussion revealed that Assembly President John Brown did not want to be head of the Council as well.

Alphonso Coles offered a motion to make the two organizations' officers identical. After Brown demurred, Dr. Beryl Rice proposed that the present officers of the Council continue in office. Coles accepted that change in his motion. C.W. Hargrave opposed it on the principle that the powers of each organization were different.

Feldman said that where task forces raised money, the funds were paid to the Council which held the money. When the task forces decide how to spend their money, then the Council pays it out.

Another member explained that the Council is a tax exempt organization under federal law that was disallowed from doing some things that the Assembly could do, because it was not formally in charge of the fund raising and disbursement.

Excepting for Brown, all of the Assembly officers were voted in as officers of the Council.

See Election, page 5

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Lucky's Waterside Grill

Education is the Key

by Karen L. Wilson
Southwester Reporter

"It's like my mother always said, 'if you have an education, nobody can take that away from you.' It's something you can take with you forever; it's yours."

So states Southwest resident Dr. Reginald Wilson. And in a world of increasing uncertainty, his pride in his possession—education—has led him through.

Dr. Wilson, "Reggie" to his friends, is Senior Scholar of the American Council on Education, an organization of which he has been a part for 13 years, first as Director of the Office of Minority Concerns. He was honored for his achievements recently at a tribute dinner.

A neighbor from the waterfront area, he sits today in his office overlooking DuPont Circle, eyes focused on some point in front of him, leaning always forward—much like his life. Dr. Wilson's mother raised him and his three brothers in Detroit. "it was hard sometimes," remembered Wilson, "my brothers and I always worked."

Their mother made sure they graduated from high school in a time when less than 50 percent of Blacks did ("you had overachieved just by finishing high school," he said). Her emphatic goal propelled this son to treasure not only his own education, but to make easier access to higher education a career project.

"Higher education should be a right, not a privilege," he declares. "it is an investment in the future of our society." Yet he knows that many factors, mostly money and not enough preparedness in high school, make college seem an impossible dream for the majority of urban youth.



Wilson himself was lucky; he went to college for free. Wilson served in World War II in the Army Air Corps, a member of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. When the war ended, he attended college on the GI bill. "I went to college because I didn't want to work," he laughs. "Everybody in Detroit worked in the auto plants, and I didn't want to."

Although being in the Army helped him, Wilson firmly believes that we as a society "shouldn't require a GI bill to send kids to college." He says instead we should work on ways to help more disadvantaged families with the funding for college.

After four years and a bachelor's degree from Wayne State College, Wilson went on to get a masters, and eventually, his doctorate, of which he is especially proud. The nameplate on his desk states simply, "Reginald Wilson, Ph.D.", but that degree has given Wilson "the freedom to move into any number of careers...a kind of meal ticket," he smiles.

The number of Blacks in this country earning advanced degrees has been decreasing in recent years, which troubles Wilson, who is a long-time civil rights leader, pioneer of the "Upward Bound" program, and instrumental in the "Freedom Schools" of Virginia desegregation fame.

"I'm concerned that we may miss the window of opportunity that will become available" as many baby-boom professors begin to retire in the next twenty years, said Wilson in an interview for Black Issues in Higher Education.

"It's a golden opportunity, but we may miss it, because history doesn't stand still while Blacks are trying to get it together," he said in the same interview.

Wilson occasionally speaks to junior high and high school groups, emphasizing the hard work and preparation needed to really make it.

"You go into a classroom and ask how many of the kids want to go to college, and they all raise their hands. But statistics show maybe 1 in 30 might finish college..." he trailed off. "They say they want to be lawyers, or maybe doctors, but then they're not taking any math courses. They don't realize that what they do right then is affecting that long-term ambition."

Wilson would love to see more mentors and role models for these students to help them see they have to work hard, get good grades, do extracurricular activities to put themselves ahead.

As another option, Wilson, a former President of Wayne County Community College, is a strong believer in the community college system. "They really are a second chance, an open-door institution," he said, noting that some community colleges don't even require students to have finished high school.

"More education gave me more freedom," he said. "Everybody should have that."

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Election from page 3

cil. There were two votes in opposition to that action.

Beverly Hadley complained that Ft.

McNair no longer honored passes that in the past were given neighborhood residents requesting permission to take walks on the base. After Ron Britt reminded the group that the base has a community liaison officer, it was decided that Assembly President Brown would contact that officer at the base, and others, to try to revive the walking passes.

Uniquely D.C., a cultural, educational and community organizing group, made a presentation at the Assembly meeting, and each of the Assembly's task force leaders gave a report.

Library Spring Lecture Series

Following is the 1994 Library Spring Lecture Series Schedule. It will be held on Saturdays at 2:00 pm:

May 14- C.R. Gibbs, **African Influences in Early Europe.**

May 21-Frank Phillips, Descendant of Bill Pickett discusses **the life and times of this great Black cowboy and other Black cowboys.**

June 4-C.R. Gibbs, **Africa's Gifts to America.**

June 11-Joy Jones, **Is There a Griot in the House?:** A collection of African American short stories.

June 18-Joselyn Morgan, **African Customs in Courtship and Marriage.**

Also...

In June, the District of Columbia Public Library, Southwest Branch, will kickoff the Youth Summer Reading Program.

THE REVENGERS' COMEDY: MURDER BY MIRTH

by Jerry Blasenstein

It is the middle of a dark, misty night on Albert Bridge in London. A car drives by, nearly running over a solitary figure who is pacing the roadway and lost in thought, and scoots off into the night. Finally, Henry Bell decides that life isn't worth living and opts for the ultimate solution, moving to the edge of the precipice, preparing to jump into the Thames River below. At that moment comes a plea for help. It seems that someone else had the same idea. Karen Knightly has already taken the plunge, but gets the belt of her coat caught on something. Henry comes running to her rescue. They meet. They talk. Each has a story to tell, one that led each of them to the bridge that night. And the stage is set for **The Revengers' Comedy**, settling in for a run at the Arena Fichlander Stage from April 17 to June 12, 1994.

The show, by British playwright Alan Ayckbourn, is non-stop action from beginning to end, as it plays out an agreement between Henry Bell and Karen Knightly to take on each other's revenge against those that pushed them to the brink of annihilation. In fact, what is unusual about the production is that it takes two parts to tell the tale. They can be seen on consecutive nights, consecutive weeks, or as a matinee/evening combination. It is a lot of theater at one sitting, but the time breezes by as the audience is subjected to twists and turns. While Karen injects herself into Henry Bell's firm to get revenge on the boss who fired him, Henry, in turn, gets cozy with Karen Knightly's lover's wife, who, apparently, had lured him back, and against whom Karen wants to extract payment. It is a broad satire on the battle of the sexes, as well as good versus evil.

As anyone who has experienced theater in the round in general, and Arena Stage in particular, will attest, the staging is tight, flashing from one scene to the next with amazing speed. With settings coming in from the sides, down from the ceiling, and up through the floor, the momentum of the action is never lost. This is a show in itself. In fact, a highlight is the Albert

Bridge, with lighted 'girders' coming down to meet the floor as the action begins amid the swirling mists.

The cast is a delight, with Ralph Cosham, an Arena veteran, as the meek Henry against Ellen Karas' wickedly duplicitous Karen. Halo Wines and Jeffrey Thompson, also members of the resident company, play unwittingly into one of Karen Knightly's scenarios and bounce off each other hilariously. Finally, Jeniffer Mendenhall is a riot as the daffy housekeeper-in-training who will undoubtedly be just that, forever. The remainder of the cast are in pure comedic form.

This show is highly recommended and has broad appeal. Check it out!

History of the WBCDC

The Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation was named in memory of the late Wiley A. Branton. He was a key lawyer in the 1957 desegregation of Little Rock, Ark. public schools; dean of law at Howard University; distinguished civil rights attorney and SW resident.

The Community Development Corporation or CDC was formed in 1992 to address the housing and economic development needs of residents in Ward 2. The WBCDC was just awarded a grant from the Community Development Support Collaborative. There are 28 CDCs in DC, 10 were chosen to receive funding from this group.

WBCDC plans to use these funds to support housing renovation and construction, to help individuals purchase public housing units, and to promote minority business activity in the area. In addition to this, this CDC administers a \$150,000 community grants program to support various social service activities within its boundaries. Its area includes Southwest and near Southeast.

The annual meeting of the WBCDC was held on Wednesday, March 30th. One of our new "Youth Reporters" will report on the meeting. Since there was not a quorum at the meeting, the election for 5 positions was postponed. Both the election for the Wiley Branton CDC and the installation of officers for the Southwest Assembly (SWNA) will be held on the same night. Save Monday, April 25 for this combined meeting.

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"The Community Church Meeting Community Needs"



Eugene Evans, a resident of N St, SW and a senior at Woodrow Wilson H.S., was the drummer in the school's concert band at their Spring Concert in April.



The Rev. Dr. Jeanne MacKenzie Takes Sabbatical

by Blossom Athey

On April 15, 1994, the Rev. Dr. Jeanne E. MacKenzie, a native of New York State, left the pastorate of Westminster Presbyterian Church in Southwest Washington, D.C.

After several years as an elementary school teacher, Dr. MacKenzie enrolled at Colgate Rochester Divinity School and graduated in 1971. She was the first clergywoman called to serve in the National Capital Presbytery. In 1972, she became an Associate Pastor at Providence Presbyterian Church, Alexandria, VA., chaired the Presbytery's Task Force on Women, and was a member of the National Steering Committee on Church Employed Women for the UPCUSA.

From 1976 to 1979, she co-directed the Metropolitan Ministry With Women, and was named Woman of the Year by the Women's Club of Fairfax County (the first minister to receive that award) as a result of her accomplishments as mother, wife and minister.

In 1979, she began her pastorate at Westminster Presbyterian Church. She guided the Church through its redevelopment process and was installed on June 30, 1985. In 1992, the Doctor of Ministry degree was conferred upon her by McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago.

During her 14 years at Westminster, Dr. MacKenzie led the congregation in becoming a church family that welcomes all persons and celebrates its diversity. She was a leader in the Southwest Clergy organization, opened doors to Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, and to a group from which OPERA SW evolved. She was instrumental in organizing, and providing the Church facilities for, FOOD AND FRIENDS, which prepares and delivers hundreds of meals daily to homebound persons with AIDS. Dr. MacKenzie served on the Board of Southwest Community House, played a major role in organizing Andrew House for homeless men in transition, and recently launched two SW community programs at Westminster: TRIPLE F (Friday Family Festival) and P.E.P. (Plant and Earth People) for neighborhood youth. In addition to providing a church home for many diverse congregants, she helped to establish relationships with SW schools and community agencies, accompanied church volunteers to the vast Navajo Reservation, worked on houses for Habitat for Humanity, and occasionally blessed boats on the Southwest waterfront.

Dr. MacKenzie will continue to reside in the Southwest community and remain active in the National Capital Presbytery.

Crossfire At St. Matthew's

CROSSFIRE, a group of five young musical men and women who recently completed their six-month West African mission, returns to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church Thursday, May 26 at 6:30 pm for music, song, and recap of their experiences in Nigeria and Ghana.

The musical and theatrical group is one of twelve sponsored by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to work in Africa and Latin America during the past year. CROSSFIRE first performed at St. Matthew's, 222 M Street, S.W. last October.

Neighborhood residents are invited to this free event. Light refreshments will be served.

June Jazz Vespers At St. Matthew's

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 222 M Street, S.W., continues Southwest's sometimes Friday Evening Jazz Vespers program with a service June 24 at 7 pm.

Neighborhood residents will receive more information in the June *Southwester*. The St. Matthew's TGOF - Thank God on Friday - Jazz Vespers Service will be followed by opportunities that evening to discuss strategies for stress management and child care issues, or just to relax after the service with music, refreshments, and conversation.

FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH BRIEFS

by Jean M. Smith

Having recently lost my mother, it is important to write this article to those of you who still have your mothers with you.

Mothers are very important people from the time you're born until one of us must depart. She's knowing, caring, and always sharing. She never gives up on you. Mothers feel your pain, heal your wounds and dry your tears. There's no end to her compassion, wisdom, understanding, patience and even digging in her pockets when you're in need. Mothers are like God. She watches over us through thick and thin.

My best friend who taught me morality and independence

Overwhelmed by her openness and her forgiveness

The faith she had in me through hard times and mistakes

Her honesty in giving advice whether I like it or not

Emptiness I feel without her

Respect and remember her always

Serenity is a gift. It is available to all of us. It is being one with the presence of God.

Isn't that just like a mother?

Please continue to pray for our First Lady Mrs. Emma Montgomery and our church. We wish Mrs. Montgomery a very happy and blessed Mother's Day.

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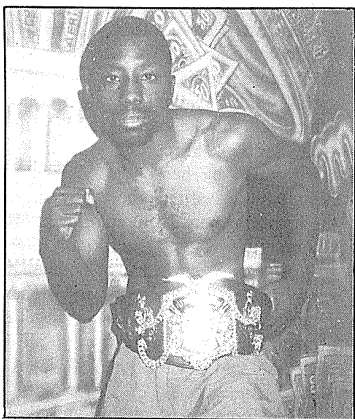
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**The Champ**

by Carole Bledsoe
Southwester Reporter

One of the rising young stars in the world of professional boxing is a life-long resident of the Southwest Washington area. He is Mark "Too Sharp" Johnson, currently the Penta Continental Flyweight Champion and highly ranked in the WBC. The *Southwester* recently wrote about Mark and here's an update.

He recently returned from winning a second round TKO decision at the Great Western Frum in Inglewood, California. He alone won a unanimous 10-round decision in a bout at the D.C. Armory on April 23. He will return to Inglewood for another fight on May 7.

Mr. Johnson is proud to be able to continue to live among his family members and friends, who also advise and support him in his boxing career. He is an active member of the community, who is well known for his honesty and integrity. Johnson not only contributes to neighborhood charities, but also is an active volunteer.

We are proud of all of Johnson's accomplishments and hope that he will continue to give his best to boxing and that he will remain such a prominent member of the Southwest Community.

Classroom Learning at American Security

Two fourth grade classes at Anthony Bowen Elementary participated in a special banking class. American Security and Trust officers Mrs. Sonia Taylor and Mr. Duncan Washington met with these students one day a week for six weeks. The class learned about money - how it is earned, the banking system, how to open an account and they were introduced to foreign currency. Mr. Pat Gilbert, president of the branch office at Waterside Mall greeted the students and welcomed them to American Security.

Their teachers, Mr. Mayo and Ms. Boykin accompanied the class to the bank where they saw lots of interesting things. They went inside of the vault and saw the safe deposit boxes. Yvonne Brady, the branch's vice president showed the students how a utility bill can be paid electronically while the customer is in the bank. She also showed them the bank's computers for customers. The students were invited to open accounts with an initial deposit of \$5. This is a program which is available to all students.

After their introduction to opening accounts, the students went behind the teller windows. Next they saw the "ATM Room" with it's walls of steel. Before leaving, they saw the lunch room where the bank employees can relax.

All of the kids agreed, this is a fun time to visit the bank. Right now, there is a Caribbean Contest with special fiesta decorations. There is a beach display in the front window. The owner of American Security, National Bank is having a contest with all of its branches to see who will sell the most loans and open the most accounts. The winner gets a free trip to Caribbean. These are busy times at American Security.

Youth Task Force Plans Summer Programs

The SWNA Youth Activities Task Force will sponsor four programs this summer to support youth activities in the Southwest.

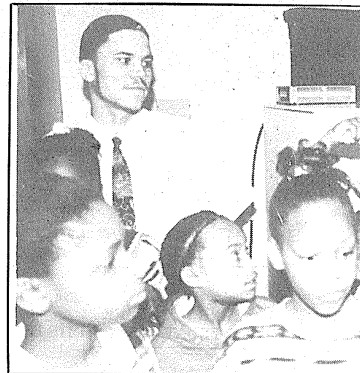
Youth age 8 to 13 will be sponsored with a week at Camp Brown, run by the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club.

Support for a youth worker at the Southwest Community House is planned.

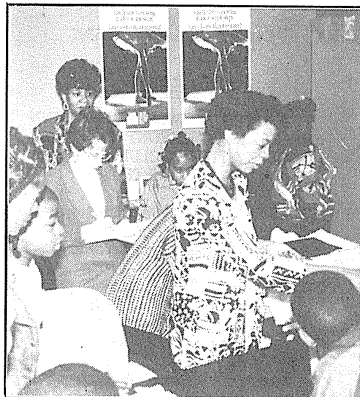
Funding is planned for an Afri-centric series at the Southwest Branch Library.

Special support will be given to on-going after-school programs which continue all year.

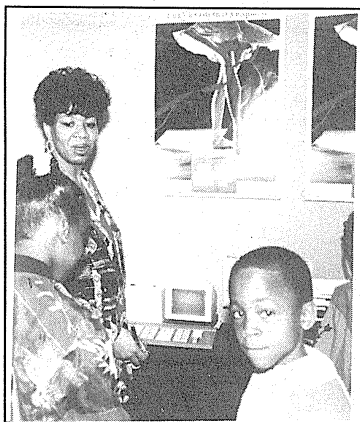
The Youth Activities Task Force will not be conducting their traditional Saturday morning job-readiness programs in June, but will concentrate their efforts on assisting the above programs sponsored by other groups.

Students learn from bank employees

Mr. Washington



Ms. Taylor



Ms. Brady

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Emma Ward Fights City Hall; She Wins

A one-woman battle with city hall has produced results that mean hundreds of dollars for some households in the Southwest, for instance helping a family which was billed \$617 for one month's water bill.

One water bill, said Emma Ward, went from \$30 to \$240 in a very short time. She advised Assembly members at their April 25th meeting that rapid protest is important in getting bills corrected. The protest must start on the billing date, she said. She has a form letter available for people who need to protest.

On South Capitol Street, said Ward, there was much trash near businesses. The proprietors in some cases were unaware that it was their responsibility to remove the trash. She helped the business people learn how to get rid of the mess.

There was a residential trash problem, as well. Ward was able to get trash pickups rescheduled for the Carrollsburg Square and for the 1200 block on Half Street. A special pickup was scheduled by the Dept. of Public Works for May 9th.

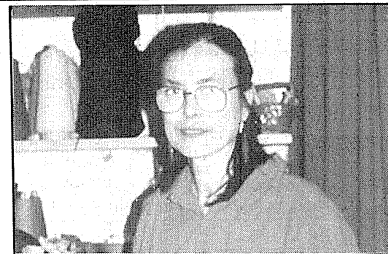
Part of her work with city hall involved controlling the spraying of ginkgo trees to make sure it was done, and at times convenient to the neighborhood.

The Dept. of Public Works was convinced to put out 150 pounds of poisoned rat bait. Further, the department was convinced to run a rat census in the neighborhood. Its evaluation will be the first in eight years, she said. The counts are used to set priorities for the anti-rat campaigns by the city.

Ward said that educating property owners is an important part of improving the neighborhood. For instance, certain structures in backyards are illegal. Where some families obey the law, the violating families nearby are a problem. The Dept. of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs is supposed to take care of the problem, but apparently nothing happens unless the neighborhood seeks action.

Ward is educating residential property owners about the law. There is an existing provision to fine property owners who don't comply with the restrictions.

Ward is also warning owners that the Council is considering a bill to double the fine, and advising them that they can avoid trouble by getting into compliance with the law. It is clear that recently directed complaints are likely to move the Dept. of Consumer & Regulatory Affairs to do some enforcement work in the Southwest.



Local Artist donates to SWNA

by Regina Rorie

A local fabric artist and designer recently donated the proceeds from a spring showing of her creations to the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly.

Barbara Peirce of G Street SW weaves multicolored strands of yarn into intricate patterns appropriately labeled, "one-of-a-kind-designs." She displayed her work in her home March 11 for the benefit of SWNA's Youth Activities Task Force.

Assisted by her author-journalist husband Neal, who served as co-host of the event, Peirce feels a strong sense of commitment towards the community's youth. A strikingly pretty woman, Peirce has a happy countenance when she discusses her fashions, but it changes to a somber one when she talks about teenagers' problems. "I feel we have to do all we can to help," she said. Thus far YATF has received \$2,280 from her.

YATF provides job training skills, placement and other assistance to area youth. It has placed more than 800 teenagers in jobs in various professions, industries and agencies throughout the city. Peirce hopes her donations will inspire others to help YATF. "I hope that others will give of their time, skills, talents or whatever, to help the kids," she said.

A resident of the southwest community since 1961 Peirce has studied art extensively in the United States and abroad. She graduated from an institution of fashion history and design in her native Berlin, Germany. She's studied weaving in Haderslev, Denmark, and Center Sandwich, New Hampshire.

Objects d' art in her twice-yearly showings range from sweaters and jackets to pillows and ties, all beautifully crafted in a medley of colors.

P.E.P.

Plant & Earth People is a group of neighborhood youths who meet at Westminster Church. It was formed by some members of the church. The mission of the club is to teach kids skills on how to plant as well as to foster an appreciation of nature. Dr. Buckreis of the Merryfield Garden Center has spoken to the group. The youths were selling plants on Saturday, April 30th at the Food & Friends Yard Sale.

◆ Sylvia Ford at P.E.P. Plant sale.

Accolades For the Riverside Condominium Community

by Jerry Blasenstein

On May 1, 1994, a reception was held in the lobby of the North Building at Riverside Condominium, located at 1425-35 4th Street, S.W.

Fresh from a trip to San Francisco, Resident-Manager Pat Turner-Dodson [who was featured in an earlier issue of the Southwester] and Unit Owner's Association President Jane Boorman shared their joy with residents at having received the Community Associations Institute [CAI] 'National Community Association of the Year' award for 1994.

The plaque, presented to Riverside at an Awards Banquet at the Sheraton Palace Hotel on April 23, represents the condominium's first place status among 12 finalists selected at the national level. Winner of the 'Medium category' in the Washington area competition last fall, this prodigious achievement came in a unanimous decision by a panel of judges.

This competition is open to any home owner association, be it a condo, coop, or planned development. Entries are judged on all aspects of association operations, not only maintenance of the physical plant and finances, but board policies, communications within the association, community activities, and participation in the greater community of the neighborhood.

Riverside will be featured in CAI's national magazine, *Common Ground*, this Summer.

The *Southwester* congratulates the owners and management of a tight-knit and well-run community.

Calendar

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CALENDAR (MAY - JUNE, 1994)

Sunday, May 15, River Trek '94, 8 am, D.C. Harbor Police Headquarters.

Wednesday, May 18, Southwest AARP Chapter 4451, 12:30 pm, St. Matthew's Church.

Monday, May 23, Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, 7:00 pm, SW Branch Library.

Thursday, May 26, NARFE Chapter 2052, 1:30 pm, SW Branch Library.

Saturday, June 4, St. Matthew's Church Rummage Sale, 10 am, St. Matthew's Church (call 301-630-9296).

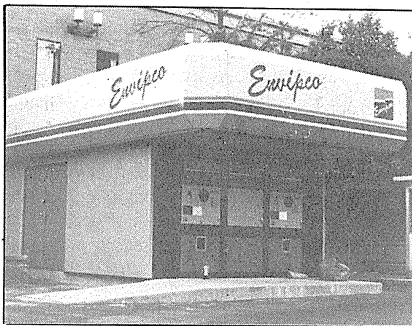
Tuesday, June 7, First District Citizens Advisory Council, 7:30 pm, First District Headquarters.

Monday, June 13, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D, 7:30 pm, Westminster Presbyterian Church.

Wednesday, June 15, AARP Luncheon Cruise, 11 am (for information, call 202-554-5503).

(Please submit community events to C.W. Hargrave, 554-8284)

"Envipco" - Recycling station



The new recycling station next to EPA near 6th and K St, SW is called 'Envipco'.

Recycling Made Easy

On Earth Day, April 22, a partnership of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Environmental Products Corporation and Town Center Management unveiled the MU 2000.

The machine which is called "Envipco" is an automated recycling system or "reverse vending machine." EPA Assistant Administrator Jonathan Z. Connon, Congresswoman Leslie Byrne (11th Dist.-VA) and Charles Bressler helped in the ceremony. Mr. Bressler has been instrumental to the success of this project.

The community is encouraged to recycle aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers in the Envipco System. Other containers, as well as ones which will not fit in Envipco can be recycled in the Igloos.

An executive order promoting recycling was signed on October 20, 1993. It requires a reduction in waste which would otherwise end up in a landfill. This is a response to that challenge.

The Envipco contains a laser-scanner which automatically sorts cans, glass and plastic. Once sorted, the containers are compacted and stored in internal silos. The system can process more than 40 containers per minute. Customers are also presented with both video messages and coupon receipts from merchants at the mall. After recycling four containers, a person might receive a coupon for a free drink from one of the participating stores.

Proceeds from the sale of materials collected by the MU 2000 will go to support community programs, the EPA Day Care and the scholarship fund of the D.C. Council of Churches.

For further information on Envipco, please contact Mike O'Reilly, EPA, Waste Prevention & Recycling Coordinator, 202/260-4928.

BEAUTY BREAK SEMINAR

A Beauty Break for Women of the 90's Seminar will be held at the Southwest Branch Library on Wednesday, May 18, 1994 at 12:00 noon, until 1:30 pm. It will be sponsored by the Friends of the Southwest Library.

For more information, call 202-727-1381.

Hold June 22 for Tribute to Fr. Haddad

by Gottlieb Simon
Southwester Staff Reporter

"Mark June 22nd on your calendar," urges Antoine Perot. That's the date, according to Perot, Fundraising Chairman, that Southwest House will hold its tribute to Fr. Norman Haddad.

Haddad, the long-time pastor of St. Dominic's Church and Treasurer of SW House, moved to a new position in Dover, Massachusetts in January.

"We owe a great debt to Fr. Haddad for his long and devoted service to the people of Southwest. Without his dedication and leadership, the SW Community House might not have survived the 80's," Perot said in announcing the June 22nd date.

The tribute will take place at the Officers Club at Ft. McNair, Wednesday evening, June 22. Additional details will be reported in the next issue of *The Southwester*. (In the meantime readers can get more information by calling the SW House at 488-7210.)

Southwest Community House is the primary social service agency for the near Southwest. Its main office is located at 156 Q Street. A satellite office serving senior citizens is located in the Greenleaf Senior Building at 1200 Delaware.

Carrollburg Friends Group Works on Rat Control

by Emma Ward
Southwester Reporter

A group of concerned neighbors in the 1200 block of Carrollburg Place SW called "Carrollburg Friends" have taken the initiative to help get rid of rats in their neighborhood. They sent out "door to door" notices advising residents they can be fined for not properly disposing of trash and advised them to put trash out only on Mondays after 6:30 PM and on Thursdays after 6:30 PM. It has been a remarkable response from the neighbors and there is a noticeable difference in the neighborhood.

Also, they contact the Department of Public Works, Office of Vector Control. A representative from the Department came out and brought a petition to have the residents sign giving the Department permission to have their premises treated for rat control.

Mr. Page has been extremely cooperative in helping with this problem. He has expressed that his Department is more than willing to work with any neighborhood to help alleviate this problem. He emphasized that the most effective way to alleviate this problem is through the effort of neighborhood residents. He can be contacted at 202/404-1218.

Coming Up

The fish market once again is in jeopardy. Next month, we will trace its tangled legal situation and talk about conflicting visions for the future.



Jamal Jones, a 6th grader at Amidon, spoke at Westminster Church on the topic "Young Black Males- Endangered Species? NOT ME!" He is shown with his mother Thelma Jones.

Skin Wellness Program

A presentation on tips concerning sun safety and skin cancer prevention will be given at River Park. On Saturday, May 14 at 10:00 am, Thelma Jones will speak at 1301 Delaware Ave. in the South Commons Room. There will be door prizes, a mini fashion show & refreshments. For more information, call Ms. Jones at 202/488-3746.

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Body Dynamics at S.W. Library Silence Not Required

by Jerry Blasenstein

Need to shake off those Winter doldrums? It's been a long and nasty one this year, but Spring is glorious, as usual. What better way than the FUN way to get your body and mind together?

Drop by the Southwest Branch Library every Saturday morning from 9:30 to 10:45 for some Body Dynamics, taught by longtime Southwest resident and exercise/dance instructor, Mary Ann Bailer [who was featured in a previous issue of the Southwester].

The class can be taken by the novice through advanced levels. Starting with a warm-up to get your heart pumping, Mary Ann will lead you through a combination of: [1] Karate and Yoga techniques to gain muscle tone by stretching and strengthening the major muscle groups; [2] Ballet and Jazz moves to further enhance coordination and provide an interesting way to practically apply techniques, and [3] Aerobics for cardio-vascular conditioning. Along the way, learn tips on the proper way to eat healthfully and take care of yourself.

The class is on the second floor, in the Children's Library, and is **F R E E**!

Garage Sale

Saturday, May 21 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm

Along 4th Street, between N & O

The River Park activities committee will accept donations of baked goods and items for sale. Bring to committee table on Saturday morning, 8:30.

If you want to sell, the cost is \$5.00 if you bring your own table, & \$10.00 for 1/2 of a River Park table.

Call Harriet Short 202/863-3870



SPRING GARDENING IN SW

Shown is Fumika Rhoades, left, discussing her garden on Fourth Street with her neighbors.

A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN

by Wallace B. Babington
Southwester Reporter

Performances by an actor on the stage alone have become so commonplace these days that they no longer attract attention. Similarly, the term "tour de force" is used so frequently to describe solo accomplishments that the words have lost their meaning. However, there is a solo performance at Arena Stage that gives new meaning to those terms. Eileen Atkins assumes the role of Virginia Woolf in a one-woman show that is truly a tour de force of acting at its best.

The text of the show is taken from two speeches given by Virginia Woolf, one of our finest English writers and an early advocate of women's rights. Eileen Atkins becomes Virginia Woolf for this performance and the words take on a life and vitality that translate into a moving and exciting experience. This is a theatrical event not to be missed.

The Southwest Branch Library has copies of the Virginia Woolf book, "A room of One's Own." The book is short, reads easily and can be enjoyed before or after the Eileen Atkins presentation.

"Eileen Atkins as Virginia Woolf in "A Room of One's Own" in the Kreeger Theater, Arena Stage, April 26 through June 19. For information call 488-3300.

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Scholarship Update

Thelma Jones & Barbara Murray

We thought that you might like to hear about some recent, as well as some present recipients who are still in the program. Many of these young people are still living here in Southwest and soon they will be in positions where they'll be giving back to their community.

Patrick Jones-Recent graduate of Bloomingburg University, PA where he is currently pursuing a Masters in biology. The degree is expected by June 1996.

Chantilla Edwards- Currently a senior at Jackson State, Jackson, MS majoring in mass communications. Volunteers for campus radio. Variety editor for college paper. Summer of 1994, she will intern with the "Today Show", NBC News, "Date Line", "Night Line" & "Saturday Night Live".

Lisa Matthews - Graduated with honors from St. Augustine's College in Raleigh, NC in 1990. Was selected by GE during senior year to participate in their Corporate Training Program. Now, she is working for GE as a system analyst in Fort Wayne, IN. Travels in official capacity for her job. Last year, she was a guest speaker at the Youth Activities Task Force, YATF.

Simbi Waters - A 1993 graduate of California Institute of the Arts. While in college, she interned at the World Bank for two summers through the YATF. She had a part in sitcom, "Martin" and a public service announcement on anti-smoking campaign. Will be a host on the

"Better Sex Show" a comedy airing in the fall on ABC.

Melinda Zellers - is attending Spellman in Atlanta. She has returned to work at the World Bank for two consecutive summers and during school breaks as a member of the YATF.

Mary Early - '93 recipient, taking many art courses, favorites are sculpting, printmaking and drawing. Also taking literature and politics at Bennington. During school breaks - has worked at the Defense Mapping Agency.

Geoff Weiss - '91 & '93 recipient, 2nd year at Univ. of MD. Majoring in Computer Science, works for Washington Cable & is Computer Expert for the *Southwester*.

Paul Weiss - '91, '92 & '93 recipient, graduating in June, Trumpet Major, wants to continue music studies in graduate school. This Spring, performed in his senior recital.

Tony Murray - '92 & '93 recipient, majoring in Earth and Environmental Science, during last 2 summers at Washington Airport Authority, attends Wesleyan.

Last year the Scholarship Fund awarded 24 grants to students. The scholarships ranged from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00. The award amount is based on the student's need, merit, and community participation.

This year, we have many first-time applicants as well as students who have received scholarships in the past. It is a real mix.

To help support the Scholarship Fund, tax deductible contributions should be payable to the S.W. Community Council and mailed to the S.W. Scholarship Fund, POB 70481.

Uniquely D.C.

This S.W. Fest 1994 will be held on Saturday, August 13 (raindate will be 8/20). It will be held on the Greenleaf field (bordered by Delaware Ave., M, N, & Canal Streets). The group, Uniquely D.C. which is planning this has some truly unique ideas for the event. "The gathering and participation of various segments of the community -- neighbors, craft people, historians, and performers -- to create greater awareness of the area's unique history."

Events planned for the festival include: oral histories, commemorative booklets, walking tour, food & crafts, original theater production, entertainment, children's area, art (by community members), etc.

It will will definately be a **participatory** gathering.

Uniquely D.C. has really done its homework. They have researched old photographs of Southwest and plan to have a replica of the front of some of the row houses which lined the wide streets. This will be built by an expert carpenter and painted by the youth of S.W. For further info. please contact: JoAnn M. Williams o-202/337-2227, h-202/561-0978 or Melissa Taylor o-202-682-0900,

Thanks for caring. Stay tuned for an announcement of the Scholarship's Jazz Concert in memory of D.C. Council Chairman John Wilson, jazz historian Felix Grant and community activist Professor Donald Macdonald. All three made a significant differences for the youth of our community.



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Challenger Research, Development Training Center

by Margaret Feldman
Southwester Reporter

On Thursday, April 21, invited guests from around the country, including some from the Southwest community, were invited to attend a preview of the new Challenger Research, Development Training Center in an annex of Jefferson Junior High School.

This Challenger Center is one of 18 now built around the country by the families of the Challenger crew as a living tribute benefitting the children of our country.

The Challenger Centers use space exploration as a theme to create a positive learning experience that raises students' expectations of success: fosters in them a long-term interest in science, math, and technology; and motivates them to pursue studies in these areas.

Visitors to the Thursday event were able to experience a simulation of being part of Mission Control and of being on a space station. On the space ship the visitors monitored body response to stress and were able to try to pick a plant using robot hands.

Vera White, Principal of Jefferson Jr. High, is enthusiastic about the Challenger Center and believes that having it as a part of the building will be a tremendous addition to the already strong program in science and math.

Southwest is lucky to have this center. Students from Amidon and Bowen, as well as children from other schools in the D.C. Metropolitan area, will have an opportunity to participate in trials of the new learning materials being developed. For further information, call 202-EXPLORE.



SWNA election booth, one of the League of Women Voters who conducted the election for SWNA.

Front row, L to R: Marcia Jarvis (Challenger Center Founding Director), Chuck Resnik (C.C. Founding Director), Cheryl McNair (C.C. Founding Director), Jane Smith Woi-cott (C.C. Founding Director). Back row, L to R: Tim Garrett, Marla Garrett (Ed Dunford's daughter), Daniel Goldin (Administrator, NASA), Ed Dunford (President and Chief Operating Officer, TRW, Inc. and Chairman, Challenger Center Annual Campaign), Gari Dunford (Ed Dunford's wife), June Scobee Rodgers (C.C. Founding Chairman), Steven McAuliffe (C.C. Founding Director).



In Memory of Thelma L. Martin

by Richard F. Ward

May 24, 1994 marks the first anniversary of the death of Thelma Louise Martin. Ms. Martin was an important member of this community from the time she moved into the Carrollsborg Square complex in 1965 until her death by heart attack at 77.

She loved to work—primarily behind the scenes—instigating and organizing affairs, functions, photography contests, day trips, dinners and buffets. She worked for The Southwest Festival of the Arts, the Southwest Photography Group, functions for the local chapter of the National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) and for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and affairs for her apartment complex - Carrollsborg.

She assisted in the get-to-know party for her friend, the world renowned ballet star Virginia Johnson. She also assisted in organizing the fiftieth reunion of Washington's Lucy Diggs Slowe Hall. In short, her passing was a terrible loss to many people in our community.

Several memorials to Thelma are visible around the area. Her co-workers at the Environmental Protection Agency donated money to her church—St. Dominic's—where a beautiful seascape and plaque have been hung in the Priory at 630 E Street, SW. Visitors are welcome to view the work during normal, daytime hours.

Also, the Carrollsborg (1250 - 4th Street, SW) meeting room has been designated as the "Thelma L. Martin Room" in her memory. It has been so marked and is visible to interested persons at the east end of the central plaza. Within the room itself, two plaques have been placed, one from her friends in the Carrollsborg Condominium and another from her associates at the Civilian Advisory Board of the Metropolitan Police Department on which she had held office. These latter two plaques can be readily seen by visitors through the glass door of the meeting room, which is normally locked.

Boys and Girls Club Activities

by Officer A. Gurley MPB&G Club

The Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club house #4, located at 101 M Street, S.W. had a very productive basketball season. Our 14 and under and 16 and under boys teams made it to the city championship. The championship was held at the Richard England Club House, located at 4103 Benning Rd., N.E. Both teams were playing against club #11. Our teams played gallantly against their opponents with both teams losing by only (2) points. The members and staff at club #4 would like to thank all participants for their great effort.

Club #4 participated in the Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) Invitational Basketball Tournament. The tournament was held in Orlando, Florida April 4-9. Club member Jeffrey Brawner played in the 12 and under division, which won their division by 2 points. They played against Queens, New York.

On April 16, Club #4 took several of its members to the Kennedy Center to see the theater group, "The Little Theater of the Deaf". The children enjoyed themselves tremendously.

These are just a few examples of the kinds of activities which the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Club offers to our future citizens. Some of the up-coming events are as follows: a field trip to Carlisle, PA for a day with the 'Redskins' at their training camp; a day of soccer on May 8. It was held at Club #11, which is located at #11 Milwaukee Place, S.E.; Summer Camp, located on 160 acres which are on the Potomac River at Point Lookout, Md.

If you are interested in any of the above activities, or would like to volunteer, contact Officer A. Gurley or Mr. A. Hudgens at 727-4618.

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